

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information signal processing apparatus comprising:

first information signal reading means for receiving or reading a predetermined first information signal;

second information signal reading means for receiving, detecting, or reading a second information signal which includes attribute information regarding the first information signal; and

characteristic detecting means for detecting a predetermined characteristic of the first information signal from said first information signal reading means in accordance with a signal received or read by said second information signal reading means.

2. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the first information signal comprises a video or audio broadcast program signal.

3. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the second information signal comprises a program information signal of a broadcast program.

4. An information signal processing apparatus comprising:

first information signal reading means for receiving or reading a first information signal which comprises at least one information signal;

second information signal reading means for receiving, detecting, or reading a second information signal which includes an attribute of the first information signal;

characteristic detecting means for detecting a predetermined characteristic of the first information signal from said first information signal reading means in accordance with a signal received or read by said second information signal reading means; and

reading control means for controlling reading of the first information signal in accordance with a detection signal from said characteristic detecting means and a signal from said second information signal reading means.

5. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the first information signal comprises a broadcast program which includes at least an audio signal or a video signal.

6. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the attribute of the first

information signal comprises an information signal which describes the outline or content of the first information signal or classification of information.

7. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the characteristic comprises a characteristic used to detect a point which has predetermined similarity or a point which appears to be a climax of a predetermined period of time.

8. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said reading control means reads a point in the first information signal, which has predetermined similarity, or a point which appears to be a climax of a predetermined period of time.

9. An information signal processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein, when it is determined based on the second information signal that the first information signal comprises a predetermined signal, said reading control means performs reading by at least varying the length of a predetermined reading section.

10. An information signal processing method comprising:

a first-information-signal reading step of receiving or reading a first information signal which comprises at least one information signal;

a second-information-signal reading step of receiving, detecting, or reading a second information signal which includes an attribute of the first information signal;

a characteristic detecting step of detecting a predetermined characteristic of the first information signal in accordance with a signal received or read in said second-information-signal reading step; and

a reading control step of controlling reading of the first information signal in accordance with a characteristic detection signal and the second information signal.

11. An information signal processing method according to Claim 10, wherein the first information signal comprises a broadcast program which includes at least an audio signal or a video signal.

12. An information signal processing method according to Claim 10, wherein the attribute of the first information signal comprises an information signal which describes the outline or content of the first information signal or classification of information.

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13. An information signal processing method according to Claim 10, wherein the characteristic comprises a characteristic used to detect a point which has predetermined similarity or a point which appears to be a climax of a predetermined period of time.

14. An information signal processing method according to Claim 10, wherein, in said reading control step, a point which has predetermined similarity or a point which appears to be a climax of a predetermined period of time is read.

15. An information signal processing method according to Claim 10, wherein, in said reading control step, when it is determined based on the second information signal that the first information signal comprises a predetermined signal, reading is performed by at least varying the length of a predetermined reading section.

16. An information signal recording apparatus, comprising:

information detecting means for detecting predetermined information in a first information signal, based on a second information signal which includes an attribute of the first information signal;

characteristic detecting means for detecting a

predetermined characteristic of the first information signal in accordance with a detection signal from said information detecting means;

identification signal generating means for generating a predetermined identification signal based on a detection signal from said characteristic detecting means and the second information signal; and

recording means for recording the first information signal and the identification signal as predetermined recording signals on a predetermined recording medium.

17. An information signal recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the first information signal comprises a broadcast program which includes at least an audio signal or a video signal.

18. An information signal recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said information detecting means detects an information signal which describes the outline or content of the first information signal or classification of information.

19. An information signal recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the characteristic comprises a characteristic used to detect a point which has

predetermined similarity or a point which appears to be a climax of a predetermined period of time.

20. An information signal recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the identification signal indicates a point in the first information signal, which has predetermined similarity, or a point which appears to be a climax of a predetermined period of time.